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OFFICE OF
THE BISHOP

September 14, 1989

Most Rev. Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo
Diocese of Dili
Av. Sa da Bandeira 25
Dili
Timor-Timur

Your Excellency:

I have met two priests from your diocese who are visiting friends here in the Diocese of Providence. Both priests seem to be excellent priests and very dedicated to the work of the Church.

The presence of these priests here gives me occasion to extend to you my prayerful best wishes. I know some of the troubles that are present in Timor. I know what a difficult time the Church has there and how much suffering you personally have to endure in order to carry out your ministry.

My prayers are that the Lord will help you and strengthen you so that all people will see your genuine sincerity and dedication to the work of Christ and the Church and will allow that work to prosper. By living in accord with the way of life taught by Christ, there can be only justice and peace that will reign among people. All of us who are leaders in the Church have the great challenge of convincing other people that Christ's way is truly the way to live. I know that your zeal will help you in this challenge. May God bless you in it.

With sentiments of esteem and assurance of my union in the Spirit of the Lord, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,

+ Louis E. Gelineau

Bishop of Providence